Case	3:10-cv-00721-WQH-CAB Document 1 Fi	led 04/06/10 PageID.1 Page 1 of 14				
, 1 2	DENNIS M. GRADY, Bar No. 118461 GRADY AND ASSOCIATES 3517 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 400 FILED					
3	San Diego, California 92108 Telephone: (619) 528-2530					
4	, ,	en along his month of the County				
5	Attorneys for Plaintiff, ELSA MANULID					
6	BYDEPUTY					
7						
. 8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT					
9	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA					
10						
11	ELSA MANULID,	case 10 CV 07 21 WQH CAB				
12	District Section 1	COMPLAINT FOR				
13	Plaintiff,)	(1) BREACH OF CONTRACT; (2) CALIFORNIA TORT CAUSE OF				
14	vs.	ACTION FOR WRONGFUL ADVERSE ACTION AND				
15	SYCUAN CASINO & RESORT, an	TERMINATION IN VIOLATION				
16	entity; SYCUAN BAND OF THE) OF PUBLIC POLICIES; KUMEYAAY NATION, an entity; DR.) (3) VIOLATION OF THE FEDERAL DONALD WEISS; an individual;) FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT;					
17	and DOES 1-30, inclusive.	AND (4) BATTERY.				
18	Defendants.	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED				
19						
20						
21	Plaintiff complains and alleges as follows:					
22	JURISDICTION					
23	1. This court has jurisdiction under 29 C.F.R. §					
24	825.400(a)(2) and because the events or omissions giving rise to					
25	Plaintiff's claims occurred in this judicial district, thus venue					
26	is proper here pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 (b)(2).					
27	///					
28						
K		1 COMPLAINT				
-	IMTB					

2.6

VENUE

2. Venue is proper in the Southern District of California under 42 U.S.C. §2000e - 5(f) and as the judicial district in which the unlawful employment practices occurred and in which relevant employment records are maintained and administered.

PARTIES

- 3. Plaintiff ELSA MANULID ("Plaintiff") is, and at all relevant times was, a resident of the State of California, County of San Diego.
- 4. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes and thereby alleges that DEFENDANT SYCUAN CASINO & RESORT, ("SYCUAN")is, and at all relevant times was, an entity of type unknown organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of a state unknown, with a principal place of business in the State of California, County of San Diego.
- 5. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes and thereby alleges that DEFENDANT SYCUAN BAND OF THE KUMEYAAY NATION(hereinafter "SYCUAN")is, and at all relevant times was, an entity of type unknown organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of a state unknown, with a principal place of business in the State of California, County of San Diego.
- 6. The entity defendants identified above are collectively referred to herein as "SYCUAN."
- 7. PLAINTIFF is informed and believes and thereby alleges that DEFENDANT DR. DONALD WEISS ("WEISS") is, and at all relevant times was, a resident of the State of California, County of San Diego.

28 | ///

1 2 h
3 C
4 t
5 C
6 t
7 a

- 8. The true names and capacities of the Defendants named herein as DOES 1 through 30, inclusive, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise, are unknown to Plaintiff who therefore sues such Defendants by fictitious names pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure §474. Plaintiff is informed and believes that the DOE Defendants are California residents. Plaintiff will amend this Complaint to show such true names and capacities when they have been determined.
- 9. Plaintiff is informed and believes and on that basis alleges that each of the Defendants herein was at all relevant times the agent, employee or representative of the remaining Defendants and was acting at least in part within the scope of such relationship, although as to DR. DONALD WEISS, at least partly outside of the scope of such relationship also.

FACTS COMMON TO ALL CLAIMS

- 10. PLAINTIFF worked for SYCUAN for eight (8) years as a cashier. On or about April 6, 2008, as PLAINTIFF was sitting down her desk chair rolled back and she hit the back of her head on an open drawer.
- 11. Despite being in an incredible amount of pain,
 PLAINTIFF went to work the next day on April 7, 2008. Shortly
 after PLAINTIFF got to work, PLAINTIFF was told to go home.

 SYCUAN'S policy violations are tracked on a point based system.

 An employee who earns 15 points will be terminated. PLAINTIFF
 was given 2 points for leaving early, even though her supervisor
 had told her to leave.
- 12. On or about April 8, 2008, PLAINTIFF visited SYCUAN's Medical/Dental Center for her injury and met with WEISS. During

this visit, PLAINTIFF relayed the fact that she had injured her head and neck. Much to her surprise, WEISS placed his finger in PLAINTIFF'S rectum during her medical exam and then he immediately left the room.

- 13. After waiting for awhile in the room, PLAINTIFF left the exam room and found a medical assistant. When PLAINTIFF asked the assistant why she was given a rectal exam, the assistant claimed that WEISS was confused about the nature of her injury and that he had left the office. Later that same week, PLAINTIFF wrote a letter to Human Resources informing them of how she was violated during her doctor's visit.
- 14. PLAINTIFF went on medical leave starting on April 8, 2008. On May 8, 2008, PLAINTIFF returned to work even though PLAINTIFF continued to suffer from depression and heart palpitations from the trauma of her doctor's visit. In June of 2008, PLAINTIFF called in sick on four different occasions because of her injury and her depression. Despite the fact that she called in sick with excused absences, PLAINTIFF accrued eight points towards being terminated.
- 15. It was not until May 15, 2008, about six weeks after her doctor's visit, that PLAINTIFF received a response to the letter that she sent to Human Resources completely dismissing her claims.
- 16. By October of 2008, PLAINTIFF had fourteen (14) points accrued against her, even though these absences were excused due to her injury and depression. On or about October 9, 2008, to October 11, 2008, PLAINTIFF called in sick because she was suffering from heart palpitations. On or about October 15, 2008,

- 17. At about 5:00 p.m. that same day, PLAINTIFF was terminated by the head of her department, for, she was told, exceeding the allowable number of points. This is a termination in direct violation of PLAINTIFF'S medical leave rights.
- 18. PLAINTIFF continues to suffer from heart palpitations and depression as a result of her doctor's visit.

FIRST CLAIM

(Breach of Contract Against SYCUAN; and Does 1-5 and 6-15, inclusive)

- 19. PLAINTIFF hereby realleges and incorporates by reference herein each and every preceding paragraph of this complaint.
- 20. PLAINTIFF was employed by SYCUAN continuously for eight (8) years. During the entire course of PLAINTIFF'S employment, there existed an implied in fact employment contract between PLAINTIFF and Defendants which included, but not limited to, the following terms and conditions:
- a. PLAINTIFF would be able to continue her employment with Defendants indefinitely so long as she carried out her duties in a proper and competent manner;
- b. PLAINTIFF would not be terminated nor would PLAINTIFF'S job functions be reassigned for other than good, just, and sufficient cause with notice thereof; and
- c. Defendants would not unlawfully discriminate against PLAINTIFF or adversely treat PLAINTIFF based upon unlawful criteria.

28 ///

8

9

10 11

12

13

14 15

16

17

18

19

20 21

22

23

24

25 26

27

28

- This total employment contract was evidenced by various 21. representations to PLAINTIFF by Defendants' agents and employees, and the parties' entire course of conduct.
- PLAINTIFF'S reliance on, belief in, and acceptance in good faith of, all of the assurances, promises and representations led PLAINTIFF throughout her employment with Defendants to reasonably believe that her employment was secure and that there existed a contract of continuous employment with Defendants. As independent consideration for this contract of continuing employment, as evidence of PLAINTIFF'S reliance thereon, in addition to performing her regular duties as an employee of Defendants, PLAINTIFF refrained from seeking any other employment.
- PLAINTIFF'S lengthy period of service also led her to believe reasonably, that PLAINTIFF could only be terminated for good, just, and sufficient cause.
- PLAINTIFF undertook and continued employment and duly 24. performed all conditions of the contract to be performed by her. PLAINTIFF has at all times been ready, willing and able to perform and has offered to perform all the conditions of this contract to be performed by her.
- Despite the representations made to PLAINTIFF and the reliance she placed on them, Defendants failed to carry out their responsibilities under the terms of the employment contract by wrongfully terminating PLAINTIFF, despite satisfactory job performance.
- As a proximate result of Defendants' breach of contract against PLAINTIFF, PLAINTIFF has suffered and continues to suffer

substantial Tosses in earnings, reimbursement for expenses incurred by PLAINTIFF but not paid to PLAINTIFF, bonuses earned and due PLAINTIFF but not paid to PLAINTIFF, deferred compensation, and other employment benefits all to her damage in an amount according to proof.

SECOND CLAIM

- (A California Tort Cause of Action for Wrongful Adverse Action and Termination in Violation of Public Policies Against SYCUAN, and DOES 1-5 and 10-20, Inclusive)
- 27. PLAINTIFF hereby realleges and incorporates by reference each and every preceding paragraph of this complaint.
- 28. Under California law it is unlawful to adversely treat or terminate an employee on grounds that violate a stated public policy.
- 29. There is a well-recognized public policy under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act that prevents employers from adversely treating or terminating an employee for having a disability, California Government Code § 12900 et seq.
- 30. There is a well-recognized public policy under the California Family Rights Act that prevents employers from adversely treating or terminating employees for taking leave or planning to take leave to treat a substantial illness, California Government Code § 12945.2 et seg.
- 31. There is a well-recognized public policy under the Federal Family Medical Leave Act that prevents employers from adversely treating or terminating an employee for taking leave or planning to take leave to treat a substantial illness, 29 USC § 2601 et seq.

///

///

32. DEFENDANTS, individually and through their officers, partners, agents, and/or employees acting within the scope of their employment, adversely treated and discharged PLAINTIFF because of her use of medical leave and because of her disabilities. The termination of PLAINTIFF was committed by Defendants in direct violation of the fundamental public policies embodied in California's Fair Employment and Housing Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, California's Family Rights Act, and the Federal Family Medical Leave Act.

- 33. As a proximate result of DEFENDANTS' wrongful acts against PLAINTIFF, PLAINTIFF has suffered and continues to suffer substantial losses in earnings, bonuses, deferred compensation and other employment benefits. PLAINTIFF has suffered and continues to suffer embarrassment, humiliation and mental anguish all to her damage in an amount according to proof.
- 34. DEFENDANTS committed the acts alleged herein maliciously, fraudulently and oppressively, with the wrongful intention of injuring PLAINTIFF, from an improper and evil motive amounting to malice, and in conscious disregard of PLAINTIFF'S rights. PLAINTIFF is thus entitled to recover punitive damages from Defendants in an amount according to proof.

WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF requests relief as hereinafter provided.

THIRD CLAIM

(Violation of the Federal Family Medical Leave Act Against Defendant SYCUAN and DOES 15-25, Inclusive)

35. Plaintiff hereby realleges and incorporates by reference each and every preceding paragraph of this complaint.

- 36. Plaintiff was at all material times an employee covered by the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) requiring employers to grant leave time to employees for the reason of the employee's or the employee's family members' serious health condition.
- 37. Defendants are, and at all material times were, employers within the meaning of the FMLA. Under the FMLA, it is, and was, unlawful for Defendants to discriminate or retaliate against Plaintiff for taking leave for the reason of Plaintiff's serious health condition or to interfere with the use of that leave.
- 38. Defendants violated the FMLA by willfully discriminating against Plaintiff and retaliating against Plaintiff for taking leave under the FMLA in the manner described above and by interfering with her use of such leave.
- 39. As a proximate result of Defendants' violation of Plaintiff's rights as alleged herein, Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer substantial losses including lost earnings, bonuses, deferred compensation and other employment benefits, and has suffered and continues to suffer embarrassment, humiliation and mental anguish all to her damage in an amount according to proof.
- 40. Defendants' discriminatory acts against Plaintiff, which violated the FMLA, were wilful, and an award of liquidated damages in an amount equal to the award of monetary damages due to Plaintiff from Defendants is appropriate in this case pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 2617.
- 41. As a result of Defendants' violation of the FMLA as alleged herein, Plaintiff is entitled to reasonable attorneys'

fees and costs of said suit as provided by the FMLA.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests relief as hereinafter provided.

FOURTH CLAIM

(Battery, Against DEFENDANTS SYCUAN; WEISS; and DOES 1-5 and 20-30, inclusive)

- 42. PLAINTIFF hereby realleges and incorporates by reference herein each and every preceding paragraph of this complaint.
- 43. By each of the acts alleged in this complaint,
 DEFENDANT WEISS touched PLAINTIFF with the intent to cause a
 harmful or offensive contact.
- 44. PLAINTIFF did not give her willing, voluntary, or informed consent to be touched.
- 45. PLAINTIFF was injured, harmed and/or offended by DEFENDANT WEISS' touching. Specifically, PLAINTIFF suffered by invasion of her personal dignity, a lowering of her self-esteem and image, mental suffering and anguish, embarrassment, and humiliation all to her damage in an amount according to proof.
- 46. To the extent allowed by law, SYCUAN is vicariously liable for the acts of WEISS.
- 47. DEFENDANTS committed the acts alleged herein maliciously, fraudulently and oppressively, with the wrongful intention of injuring PLAINTIFF, from an improper and evil motive amounting to malice, and in conscious disregard of PLAINTIFF's rights. PLAINTIFF is thus entitled to recover punitive damages from DEFENDANTS in an amount according to proof.

WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF requests relief as hereinafter provided.

<u>PRAYER</u>

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests relief as follows:

- 1. For damages according to proof including loss of earnings, deferred compensation and other employment benefits;
- 2. For compensatory damages for losses resulting from embarrassment, harm to reputation, humiliation, mental anguish, and other emotional distress according to proof;
- 3. For interest on the amount of losses incurred in earnings, deferred compensation and other employee benefits at the prevailing rates;
- 4. That Defendants, their agents, successors, employees and those acting in concert, be enjoined permanently from engaging in each of the unlawful practices, policies, usages and customs set forth herein;
- 5. For reinstatement of Plaintiff in the position from which she was wrongfully terminated or a comparable position in Defendants' organization and all benefits attendant thereto that would have been afforded Plaintiff but for said discrimination and violations;
 - 6. For liquidated damages to the extent allowed by law;
 - For punitive damages according to proof;
 - 8. For costs of suit including reasonable attorneys fees;
- 9. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem proper.

27 ///

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

28 | ///

Case 3:10-cv-00721-WQH-CAB Document 1 Filed 04/06/10 PageID.12 Page 12 of 14

SJS 44 (Rev. 12/07)

Ε



The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

			211 - 61	_	
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDANTS		9 77	
Elsa Manulid		Sycuan Casino, Kumeyaay Natio	Sycuan Casino ஆ நிருந்தி க்டுள்ளது; ஆப்போ Band of the Kumeyaay Nation, an entity; Dr. Donald Weiss; and individua		
(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plaintiff San Diego	County of Residence of	[First Listed Defendant: car	JF CANA	
	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)	gi	(INCUS PLAINTIFF CASES (ONLY)	
		LANDII	NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.		
(a) Attornov's (Firm Name	e, Address, and Telephone Number)	Attorneys (If Known)			
Dennis M. Grady, Grad	y and Associates, 3517 Camino del Rio)721WQH	CAB	
	o, CA 92108 (619) 528-2530 DICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	. CITIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES	Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff	
☐ 1 U.S. Government	☑ 3 Federal Question	(For Diversity Cases Only)	F DEF	and One Box for Defendant) PTF DEF	
Plaintiff	(U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citizen of This State	Incorporated or Prof Business In This	incipal Place 4 M 4 M 4 M 7 B	
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity	Citizen of Another State	2		
	(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen or Subject of a	3 🗇 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6	
IV. NATURE OF SUI	(T (Diana - "V" in One Box Only)	Foreign Country			
CONTRACT	T (Place an "X" in One Box Only) TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES	
☐ 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY	☐ 610 Agriculture	☐ '422 Appeal 28 USC 158	☐ 400 State Reapportionment	
120 Marine	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 362 Personal Injury -	☐ 620 Other Food & Drug	423 Withdrawal	410 Antitrust	
☐ 130 Miller Act	315 Airplane Product Med. Malpractice	☐ 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881	· 28 USC 157	☐ 430 Banks and Banking ☐ 450 Commerce	
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument ☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability	630 Liquor Laws	PROPERTY RIGHTS.	460 Deportation	
& Enforcement of Judgmen		☐ 640 R.R. & Truck	☐ 820 Copyrights	☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and	
☐ 151 Medicare Act	☐ 330 Federal Employers' Injury Product	650 Airline Regs.	830 Patent 840 Trademark	Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit	
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	Liability Liability 340 Marine PERSONAL PROPERTY	660 Occupational Safety/Health	040 Traucinark	490 Cable/Sat TV	
(Excl. Veterans)	☐ 345 Marine Product ☐ 370 Other Fraud	☐ 690 Other		☐ 810 Selective Service	
☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment		LABOR See See	SOCIAL SECURITY	850 Securities/Commodities/	
of Veteran's Benefits	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 380 Other Personal ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Property Damage	710 Fair Labor Standards	861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923)	Exchange 875 Customer Challenge	
☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits ☐ 190 Other Contract	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Property Damage Product Liability ☐ 385 Property Damage	720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	12 USC 3410	
☐ 195 Contract Product Liability	1	☐ 730 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting	☐ 864 SSID Title XVI	☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions	
☐ 196 Franchise	Injury	& Disclosure Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS	891 Agricultural Acts 892 Economic Stabilization Act	
D 210 Land Condemnation	CIVIL RIGHTS PRISONER PETITIONS 441 Voting 510 Motions to Vacate	740 Railway Labor Act 790 Other Labor Litigation	870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	893 Environmental Matters	
220 Foreclosure	□ 442 Employment Sentence	☐ 791 Empl. Ret. Inc.	or Defendant)	☐ 894 Energy Allocation Act	
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 443 Housing/ Habeas Corpus:	Security Act	☐ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	895 Freedom of Information Act	
240 Torts to Land	Accommodations 530 General 535 Death Penalty	IMMIGRATION	20 USC 7009	900Appeal of Fee Determination	
 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property 	445 Amer. w/Disabilities - 540 Mandamus & Other	462 Naturalization Application	Ţ.	Under Equal Access	
	Employment	☐ 463 Habens Corpus -		to Justice	
	446 Amer. w/Disabilities - 555 Prison Condition	Alien Detainee		950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
	Other 440 Other Civil Rights	Actions			
V. ORIGIN (Place	e an "X" in One Box Only)	Trone	ferred from G 6 Multidiet	Appeal to District Judge from	
	Removed from 3 Remanded from 4 Appellate Court	Reopened anoth	er district	Magistrate Judgment	
	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are find the Community of the	iling (Do not cite jurisdiction	al statutes unless diversity):		
VI. CAUSE OF ACT	Brief description of cause: FMLA ect.	<u> </u>			
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	N	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND	y if demanded in complaint: : Ø Yes ☐ No	
VIII. RELATED CAS	SE(S) (See instructions): JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE	SIGNATURE OF ATTO	/ \ .			
04/06/2010	Dennis M. Grady	, Esq. Jenin /	m Gud		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	\$200	HIDOS	MAG. JU	IDGE	
RECEIPT # 119	AMOUNT APPLYING IFP	JUDGE_	MIAG. JC		
M	> 0400-10				

Court Name: USDC California Southern

Division: 3

Receipt Number: CAS011950

Cashier ID: mbain

Transaction Date: 04/06/2010 Payer, Name: GRADY AND ASSOCIATES

CIVIL FILING FEE

For: MANULID V SYCUAN CASINO

Case/Party: D-CAS-3-10-CV-000721-001

Amount: \$350.00

CHECK

Check/Money Order Num: 3718

Amt Tendered: \$350.00

Total Due: \$350.00 Total Tendered: \$350.00

Change Amt: \$0.00

There will be a fee of \$45.00 charged for any returned check.